

10/574695
IAP20 Rec'd PTO 05 APR 2006

Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 04853.0131

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Toshiyoshi ICHIKAWA et al.)
) Group Art Unit:
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned)
) Examiner:
Filed: April 5, 2006)
)
For: LASER BEAM MACHINE)
)

U.S. National Phase of International Application No. PCT/JP2004/015301

**MAIL STOP PCT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and cited in the international search report. Copies of the listed foreign patent documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO/SB/08 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

U.S. Patent No. 6,153,853, which is listed on IDS Form PTO/SB/08, corresponds to Japanese Application No. 10-180472, which is cited in the enclosed international search report enclosed herewith.

The following are listed on the accompanying PTO/SB/08 and are in a non-English language:

1. Japanese Patent Publication (Kokai) No. 2001-232489 - The relevance of this document is discussed at page 1 of the specification of the present application.
2. Japanese Application No. 10-230393
3. Japanese Application No. 2003-305578
4. Japanese Application No. 06-246470

An English-language abstract of the documents is enclosed.

In lieu of a statement of relevance or the translation of the non-English documents No. 2 and 3, enclosed is an English-language international search report from the Japanese Patent Office in the PCT international application, from which this national phase U.S. application is derived, citing these documents and setting forth the relevance thereof.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants

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reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents. Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: April 5, 2006

By:



Ernest F. Chapman
Reg. No. 25,961

Enclosures
EFC/FPD/gah

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IDS Form PTO/SB/08: Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/574695
				Filing Date	April 5, 2006
				First Named Inventor	Toshiyoshi ICHIKAWA
				Art Unit	
				Examiner Name	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	04853.0131

U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-6,153,853	11-28-2000	Maruyama et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP-2001-232489	08-28-2001	HONDA MOTOR CO LTD		Abstract
		JP-10-230393	09-02-1998	AATSU:KK MEIWA:KK		Abstract
		JP-2003-305578	10-28-2003	TOYODA MACH WORKS LTD TOYODA MOTOR CORP		Abstract
		JP-06-246470	09-06-1994	HITACHI CONSTR MACH CO LTD		Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.